

## HAMNET BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2002

HAMNET is the Official Emergency Communications Unit of the South African Radio League and is responsible for providing emergency communication in times of distress or national disasters to local and regional authorities, when requested to do so.

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### HAMNET BULLETINS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Sunday morning kicks off with Hamnet KZN at 07H15 on their local VHF repeaters with a relay on 7.070Mhz by Wally ZS5WP.

Followed with the national Bulletin on 10,130Mhz in the 30M band with a relay on 7.070Mhz by Martin ZS6MSG. In Gauteng, 145,700Mhz is also used for a local transmission. The time is 17h00 local during summer months and 16H30 during winter months.

Next we have Gauteng North. Their bulletin is read on Tuesdays at 20:30 local time to accommodate those who are in church on a Sunday evening. The frequencies are 145,725MHz and either on 7,070MHz in the 40M band or 3,695MHz in the 80M band.

North West Province have a club bulletin on Mondays, which includes a Hamnet segment at 19H00 local on 3,750Mhz in the 80M band as well as their local repeater on 145.737.5Mhz.

Last but not least is Hamnet Western Cape Province with a bulletin on Wednesdays at 20H30 local on 3,674MHz relayed by Matt ZS1MJJ in the 80M band and on their local repeaters, 145:625Mhz, 145:700Mhz, 145:750Mhz and various other links.

Whatever you missed please access the S.A.R.L. Website under the heading "Hamnet News - regularly updated", for the latest news or if you are on Packet, it will have been sent to you thanks to Rudie ZS6DX.

### 9/11 - NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON REMEMBERS.

New York's twin towers are no more. The only recollection of these two landmarks will only be found on old postcards, dated sitcom video's, old movies or in the memory of many who had the privilege to visit the "Big Apple".

The pain, the suffering and the memories of loved one lost, will be with us for many years to come.

The item HAMNET prepared, after this catastrophe, is still on my computer and refreshing my memory this week I realised that almost one year has passed since the world was shocked to see to what length's fanaticism was prepared to go.

The one thing that shone through and was so evident throughout was the response, the availability and camaraderie, never seen before, among the Amateur Radio fraternity in and around New York and Washington.

Those who responded to the call by ARES, Red Cross and RACES to make themselves available for an indefinite period of time, was overwhelming.

The response was so good that only fully qualified and current members of the two main emergency organisations eventually were considered for an extended tour of duty.

We again salute the hundreds of operators, some as young as 16 years of age, who responded to the call and gave their time, expertise and moral support during the weeks that followed.

For those who are interested and who have access to the DSTV dish, there is a dedicated program to 9/11 being broadcast on the Discovery Channel on Sunday 8 September (channel 65), running from 8pm local time to 10pm to be followed by a program on the New York fire-fighters "The brotherhood of September 11" from 11pm to midnight.

Emergency communication to all us amateurs is a gift that so few of us appreciate, use and propagate. Again, an extract from an Amateur Radio publication after the 9/11 horror; Hollingsworth, from the F.C.C. highlighted the fact that the only fail-safe communicator on earth is an amateur radio operator.

Lets not forget that statement and build on what we have learnt over the years when it comes to emergency communication.

## WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

One week down, and one to go.

That's the catchphrase at present among the HAMNET operators who have unselfishly given up many hours and days of their time to spend time and monitor at the 3 Joint Operational Centres.

We had a few hiccups initially, but by day two, all JOC's were operational and manned for most of the time.

We had one march in Johannesburg centre, which was dispersed without any problems, and all eyes were fixed on Sandton on Saturday when at least three organized marches were to take place.

Despite our apprehensions, all the marches went off without a hitch.

We will, however, be on standby for at least until Wednesday 4 September, should we be called upon to do duty.

My thanks to all those HAMNET members who did duty at Pretoria, Kempton Park and Sandton Fire Station this week.

#### SEARCH & RESCUE CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE

From 19 to 21 September, a Convention will take place in Somerset West, to look at certain issues surrounding Search & Rescue, specifically around our coastal areas.

Francois, ZS6BUU, and possibly other HAMNET members, will be attending this convention and we have already approached our sister organisation the Maritime Mobile net, to submit some information and their thoughts, so this can be tabled, if necessary, at this convention.

The feeling is that seeing we are all together under one roof, let's make the most of it and highlight other problems that may not have been considered or tabled on the Agenda.

A report back will follow.

#### HAMNET PHOTO'S FOR OUTSTANDING I.D. CARDS

I am currently getting the backlog of HAMNET I.D. cards issued but found that there are many photos outstanding.

A list of the names and call signs are currently on view on the S.A.R.L. website and will also appear in the next issue of Radio ZS for those who do not have access to the web.

Please let me have those photos as soon as possible, so we can issue the outstanding cards. All cards are on my table at present and just waiting for your photo.

Please try and conform to a size approx. 30mm by 30mm so they can be trimmed to fit into the card.

Bulletin Ends.